

Appln No. 10/656,086

Amdt date March 4, 2008

Reply to Office action of December 4, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6-19 and 31-44 remain in this application with claims 14-19 withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species, and new claims 35-44 added by amendment. In the December 4, 2007 Office action, claim 9 was allowed and claims 1, 6-8, 10-13, and 31-34 were rejected. In response, applicant has canceled claim 1 and amended claims 6-8, 10, 12, and 31 to depend from allowable claim 9. Claim 9 has also been amended to clarify the intended scope of the invention. Claims 11 and 13 also now depend from claim 9 through their dependency on claims 10 and 12, respectively. As to claims 14-19, though these claims were withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species, claims 14 and 15 have been amended to depend from claim 9 such that all of claims 14-19 now depend from claim 9. Applicant submits that in view of the allowance of claim 9, the withdrawn claims are now allowable, and applicant asks that they be rejoined.

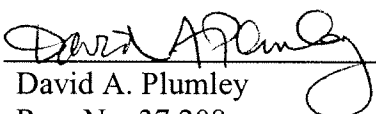
Turning to new claim 35, applicant has modeled this claim after a previous version of claim 9 that was not limited to any particular group of sulfone-based compounds. Applicant submits that even though the examiner has cited prior art that discloses electrolytes that include the Formula (1) sulfone-based compounds (see Kim US 2001/0009744), the Formula (2) sulfone-based compounds (see Kim US 2001/0009744, and Chaloner-Gill et al. which discloses sulfolane, the Formula (2) sulfone where $p=2$), and the Formula (3) butadiene sulfone (see Kim US 2001/0009744, and Narang et al.), the prior art fails to teach or suggest a polymerization reaction product of: a) a sulfone-based compound; b) a C_3 to C_{30} organic peroxide or azo-based compound; and c) a poly(ester)(meth)acrylate or a polymer thereof, wherein the poly(ester)(meth)acrylate is defined as set forth in new claim 35. Consequently, new claim 35 is allowable over the cited art. New claim 36 further limits claim 35 by reciting the sulfone-based compounds of Formulas (1) to (3), and new claim 37 still further limits claim 35 to the sulfone-based compound of Formula (1). New claims 38-44 also depend from claim 35, and are modeled after claims 6-8 and 10-13. Applicant submits that all of new claims 36-44 are allowable over the cited art due to their dependence on allowable claim 35.

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Finally, turning to claim 32, this claim has been amended for clarity, and to recite an electrolyte modeled after that of new claim 35. Therefore, it is allowable over the cited art for the same reasons that claim 35 is allowable. Claims 33 and 34 have been amended to depend from amended claim 32, and are similarly allowable.

Claims 6-19 and 31-44 remain in this application with claims 14-19 withdrawn, and applicant submits that all claims are allowable over the cited art. However, if there are any remaining issues, the examiner is asked to contact applicant's counsel at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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